

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :
 :
OKUBO, ET AL. :
 :
Serial No.: To be assigned : Art Unit: To be assigned
 :
Filed: Herewith : Examiner: To be assigned
 :
For: Novel Polypeptide having : Atty Docket: 1581/00270
Water Channel Activity and :
DNA Sequence :
 :
 :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-captioned case as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Page 1, following the title, please insert:

---Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application is a divisional of copending U.S. Patent Application S.N.
09/381,810 filed October 19, 1999, which is the national phase of PCT/JP98/01371 filed
March 27, 1998 and claiming priority from Japanese Hei-9-094845 filed March 28,
1997.---

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 and 4 without prejudice to their reentry at some later date.

03654850

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that the application as so amended receive an examination on the merits, and that the claims as now presented receive an early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Burton A. Amernick (24,852)

Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP

1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20036-3425

Telephone: 202-331-7111

Date: 5-8-01